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Your Wildlife is the Heritage Fund's Legacy

Making a Difference for Sportsmen

Sportsmen have a long-standing, noble tradition of conservation. Their dollars, in addition to the Heritage Fund, provide essential funding for managing Arizona's wildlife and benefit all citizens.

Loss of this funding would impact Arizona's economy especially in rural areas, and its diverse wildlife and reduce outdoor recreation opportunities.

Here's how the loss of the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) Heritage Fund would affect you.

- Programs that directly affect Arizona's sportsmen could be cut back to 1990 levels, including:
 - law enforcement
 - public land access involving more than 2 million acres
 - game and sportfish management
 - habitat enhancement
 - shooting range operations and development
- AZGFD could be forced to increase license fees before the end of the current recession.
- Millions of dollars in federal matching funds could be forfeited — or matched at sportsmen's expense.
- AZGFD's ability to represent Arizona's interests in decisions affecting land and water use and wildlife management would be compromised.



- Without AZGFD representing state and local stakeholder interests as the voice of reason at the negotiating and decision table, federal agencies, litigious special interest groups, and federal courts would have even greater influence on Arizona's wildlife, land use and water policy decisions.
- AZGFD would be less able to gather and apply biological data and knowledge that is critical to fighting misuse of the federal Endangered Species Act to gain control over Arizona's land, water, and wildlife resources.

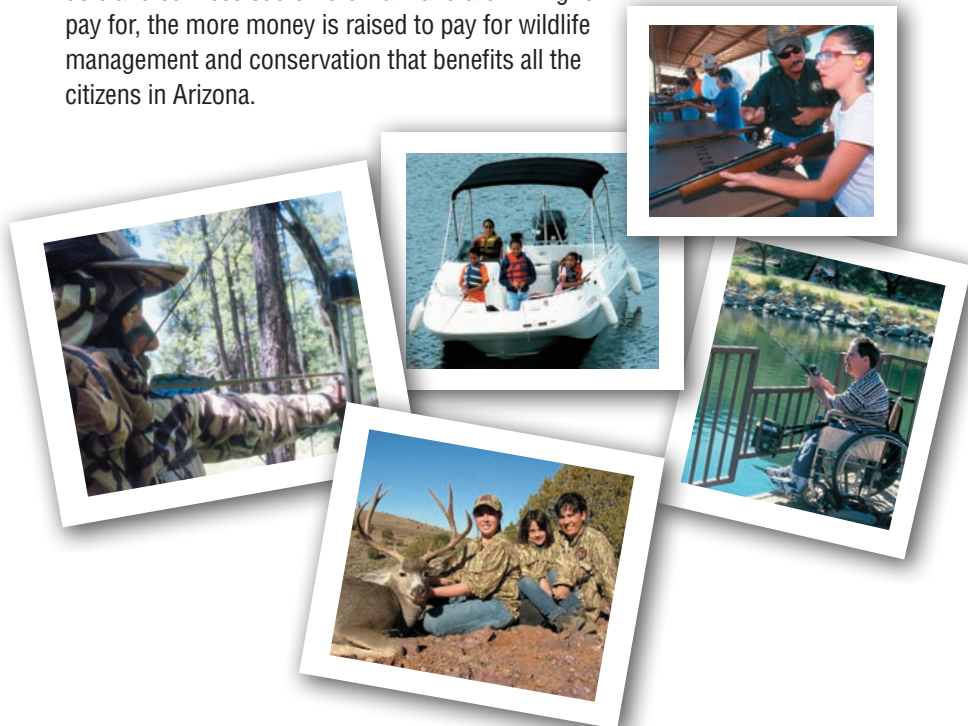
Arizonans want the Heritage Fund! The Heritage Fund was created in 1990 through the efforts of a broad coalition of Arizona citizens. Voters passed the Heritage Fund Initiative by an overwhelming 2-1 vote and supported the Heritage Fund again at the polls in 1998. Voters again showed strong support for Heritage in 2002 when they voted 73 percent in favor to continue the Arizona Lottery. The Arizona Game and Fish Department uses Heritage Fund dollars to manage more than 800 native wildlife species (the highest diversity of any inland state), including threatened and endangered species. The Department also uses Heritage Fund dollars to help urban residents coexist with wildlife, to educate children and the public about the environment and wildlife conservation, and to create new opportunities and provide access for outdoor recreation.

The Heritage Fund provides critical funding to the department and benefit communities statewide.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department receives no general tax revenue. Instead, the Game and Fish Department operates more like a business and a "user pay-user benefit" model. The more success the department has in providing products and services customers want and are willing to pay for, the more money is raised to pay for wildlife management and conservation that benefits all the citizens in Arizona.

Did You Know?

- If the Heritage Fund were lost, AZGFD would reduce or eliminate programs that generate \$2.3 billion in total expenditures on wildlife related recreation (2006 USFWS National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation).
- Heritage funding has contributed nearly 18,000 acres for public enjoyment, wildlife conservation and establishment of wildlife areas statewide.



Arizona Game and Fish Department Mission

To conserve, enhance, and restore Arizona's diverse wildlife resources and habitats through aggressive protection and management programs, and to provide wildlife resources and safe watercraft and off-highway vehicle recreation for the enjoyment, appreciation, and use by present and future generations.